

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-11 EURE-00 ISO-00 ACDA-05 INRE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

SAJ-01 /077 W

----- 020971

O R 261626Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 516

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR

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SUBJECT: 25TH CONGRESS: THE SECOND DAY

REF: MOSCOW 2819

1. THE SECOND DAY OF THE CONGRESS, FEBRUARY 25, FEATURED DISCUSSION OF BREZHNEV'S CC REPORT AND SIZOV'S AUDITING COMMISSION REPORT BY (A) ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PARTY LEADERSHIP WITH SPECIFIC REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES: GRISHIN, SHCHERBITSKIY, KUNAYEV, ROMANOV, MASHEROV, RASHIDOV AND SOLOMENTSEV; (B) GEORGIAN FIRST SECRETARY SHEVARDNADZE; AND (C) TWO RANK AND FILE PARTY MEMBERS (COAL MINER DROZDETSKIY AND MILL WORKER YEROFYEVA). IN ADDITION, SPEECHES WERE MADE BY FOREIGN GUESTS GIEREK, LE DUAN, CASTRO, HONEKER AND HUSAK. KIRILENKO WAS IN THE CHAIR THROUGHOUT THE DAY. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FEBRUARY 25 SOVIET AND FOREIGN SPEECHES ARE REPORTED IN SEPARATE CABLES.

2. FOLLOWING THE EVENING SESSION, ALL OF THE CENTRAL LEADERSHIP ATTENDED A WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY AT LENIN'S TOMB. THEN ENSUED A GALA SPORTS SHOW AT THE LUZHNIKI SPORTS PALACE, ATTENDED BY ALL OF THE LEADERSHIP EXCEPT ANDROPOV, GRISHIN, POLYANSKIY, PONOMAREV, USTINOV AND KAPITONOV.

3. ALTHOUGH THE SPORTS SHOW WAS TELEVISED LIVE, EVENTS AT THE CONGRESS ITSELF FEBRUARY 25 WERE NOT. VIDEOTAPED SEGMENTS FROM EACH SPEECH WERE CARRIED AT 6:00 P.M. THAT EVENING, AGAIN ON THE VREMYA NEWS PROGRAM LATER IN THE EVENING, AND IN A ONE HOUR TV RECAP AT 10:00 A.M. ON FEBRUARY 26. WE ASSUME THIS PATTERNS OF TV COVERAGE WILL APPLY TO MOST OF THE REST OF THE CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS.

4. WESTERN NEWSMEN TELL US THAT THE DAILY BRIEFINGS AT THE HOTEL INTOURIST PRESS CENTER BY "KOMMUNIST" EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AFANASYEV THUS FAR HAVE BEEN A WASTE OF TIME, AND THAT THE BAR OF THE INTOURIST HAS QUICKLY BECOME MORE POPULAR WITH THE WESTERN PRESS CROPS THAN THE PRESS CENTER.

5. OF POSSIBLE INTEREST IS BREZHNEV'S PUZZLING TENDENCY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTINUOUSLY TO USE AN EARPIECE CONNECTED TO THE MEETING HALL'S AUDIO SYSTEM, IN CONTRAST TO ALMOST ALL OTHERS ON THE DAIS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 FEB 1976  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Type:** TE  
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